GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3195
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2017
Pollution due to Sugarcane Industries
Singh Shri Hukum

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NGT has ordered for inspection of 'Kolhus' used for crushing sugarcane in Uttar Pradesh and several other States following the allegations that these unregulated units were major contributors to air and water pollution and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
(b) whether there is any scientific study or any report with regard to working of these units and the adverse impact on the environment and if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the guidelines of CPCB in this regard along with the violations that took place and the action taken thereon, Statewise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) vide its order dated 19.01.2017 has directed the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) to conduct independent studies on various environmental issues relating to Kolhus and suggest remedial measures, as may be necessary. In compliance of NGT order, CPCB team has inspected Kolhus in Western Uttar Pradesh. However, emission monitoring could not be conducted in absence of adequate stack height and necessary monitoring facilities like port holes, monitoring platforms, etc.

(b) As reported by CPCB, no scientific Study or Report is available with regard to adverse impact on environment due to functioning of Kolhus.

(c) Environmental standards have been notified for sugar industries under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which are enforced by the respective State Pollution Control Boards. However, guidelines on operation of Kolhus have not been brought out by CPCB, so far.
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